

Jordan Times

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King inaugurates gliding club

AMMAN (J.T.) — His Majesty King Hussein on Tuesday inaugurated the Royal Jordanian Gliding Club at Marka airport and heard a briefing on its development from Mr. Issa Qandah, director general of the Royal Jordanian Air Academy. The new club is a centre offering a chance to Jordanian youth to develop their culture and knowledge about aviation, Mr. Qandah said. He voiced appreciation to Egyptian instructors on gliding skills for their efforts in providing training to Jordanian personnel. Later, King Hussein distributed awards to the Jordanian team of instructors and watched an acrobatic show performed by gliders flown by Jordanian pilots. Her Majesty Queen Noor and senior civilian and military officials accompanied King Hussein to Jordan. The club has been established by the Royal Jordanian Air Force, the Arab Wings and the Royal Jordanian Civil Aviation Academy in cooperation with the Royal Jordanian Air Force. The club now owns 10 gliders of various types, a tug aircraft and a winch for launching. It plans to build a hangar for the gliders at Marka airport and an administration building.

Senghor arrives in Amman

AMMAN (Petra) — Former President of Senegal Leopold Senghor arrived in Amman Tuesday at the invitation of His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan to take part in a meeting of the Independent Commission on International Humanitarian Issues (ICHI) which is to open here on Saturday. In a statement upon arrival Mr. Senghor said he was happy to visit Jordan "which plays a positive role in promoting world peace." Mr. Senghor paid tribute to Prince Hassan who, he said, was continuing to promote Arab-King cooperation and leading a worldwide campaign calling for peace, disarmament and also for fighting desertification. Several world dignitaries and intellectuals from different countries are to take part in the meeting which will last a week and will encompass a framework for an international humanitarian order. The commission, which is co-chaired by Prince Hassan and Prince Saoud bin Sultan, groups 27 world figures. Mr. Senghor was welcomed at Queen Alia International Airport by Minister of Information Mohammad Al Khatib and Senegal's Ambassador to Jordan Abdullah Dyon.

Cabinet meets on youth activities

AMMAN (Petra) — The Cabinet met on Tuesday under the chairmanship of Prime Minister Zaid Rifai. The session was dedicated to discussing the general framework of the Ministry of Youth's activities. Minister of Youth Eid Dahiyat briefed the Cabinet on his ministry's efforts and schemes directed at training the Jordanian youth.

857 vehicles found violating regulations

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Public Security Department (PSD) has found 857 cars with faulty parts or in an unfit condition to be on the roads in Jordan within the first week of a month-long campaign which started at the beginning of December to check the fitness of vehicles in the Kingdom. A PSD spokesman said Tuesday. He said nearly three quarters of the total number of cars found violating traffic regulations were discovered during the first week of the campaign. Of 1986 makes only 28 cars were found to be violating these regulations, the spokesman said. He added that out of the total number, 675 cars were found violating traffic regulations in the Amman region alone.

Suspect charged with Shaka bombing

TEL AVIV (AP) — A U.S.-born leader of Israel's Jewish settlement movement was indicted Tuesday in an Israeli court on suspicion of plotting a bomb which blew off the legs of Yehonatan Ben-David, a 19-year-old Israeli soldier, in a terrorist attack. The man, identified as Yehonatan Ben-David, was charged with membership in a terrorist organisation and aggravated assault, the radio said. He is suspected of belonging to a Jewish organisation which conducted a series of attacks against Palestinians in the occupied West Bank between 1980 and 1984.

Thatcher heckled

STRASBOURG (AP) — Britain's Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher was heckled and booed in the European Parliament Tuesday while delivering a speech on her government's accomplishments in leading the 12-nation European Community. Her speech was often interrupted by catcalls and hisses from the left-wing benches and the session was suspended when heckling drowned out her voice.

Austria returning ambassador to Israel

VIENNA (AP) — Austrian Ambassador Otto Pleinert, who was recalled by the government after Israel summoned him and did not replace his ambassador to Austria, will return to Israel, Chancellor Franz Vranitzky said Tuesday. After a cabinet meeting, Mr. Vranitzky said Austria regarded the return of its ambassador as an "expression of the wish, the will and the endeavour towards good and correct relations with Israel." Mr. Vranitzky's spokesman Karl Krammer told AP Mr. Pleinert was expected to fly back to Israel "before Christmas."

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Israelis wound 8 Arabs in Gaza amid continuing protests

Combined agency dispatches

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM — Israeli soldiers shot and wounded a 16-year-old Palestinian and clubbed and injured at least seven other Arabs in the occupied Gaza Strip as widespread anti-Israeli protests continued for the sixth consecutive day in the occupied territories.

Over 1,000 Palestinian students shouting nationalist slogans rallied to protest an order by the occupation authorities for the closure of Birzeit University. A Western eyewitness told Reuters an Israeli army jeep and truck transporting soldiers turned back when they saw the students march from the new campus to the old campus of the university where 3,500 Palestinians study. Students and faculty members joined the demonstration at Birzeit University, where two students were killed during a demonstration last Thursday that set off a wave of violent anti-Israeli protests.

Four Palestinians have died and 26 have been wounded in the six days of protests and demonstrations. At least 15 others, including Israeli policemen and foreigners, have been injured.

The violence was condemned by the U.N. Security Council in a resolution passed Monday. Foreign Minister Shimon Peres, speaking on Israel Radio, said he regretted the United States' decision not to veto the resolution. In Gaza, troops shot a

16-year-old protester in the head and thigh, and wounded seven others with riot clubs. The youth was in serious condition at a hospital outside Tel Aviv.

Palestinians who spoke to AP on condition of anonymity identified the shooting victim as Khalid Shaaba Zihada, 16, and said he also suffered gunshot to the chest.

Students returned to classes at the new campus of Birzeit University, formally ending a self-declared mourning period for the two students whose deaths in Israeli gunfire last Thursday sparked the most violent West Bank protests of recent years.

But Birzeit's smaller old campus, where the initial clash with Israeli troops occurred, remained closed. The Israeli occupation authorities have ordered it shut until Jan. 3. The Israeli army said it was not establishing checkpoints at Birzeit. It was the setting up of

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U.S. controversy over Iran deal falls short of sparking Mideast policy debate

By Salamah Ne'matt in Washington

RATHER than sparking a whole new debate about U.S. policy on the Middle East, the controversy over U.S. secret arms shipments to Iran has been reduced to a mere clash over legislative technicalities and internal government procedures. Observers here believe that the Iran affair could signal a realignment of U.S. priorities in the region, but that this is unlikely to happen in the near future.

Testifying before Congress on Monday, Secretary of State George Shultz echoed President Ronald Reagan's remarks that the Iranian revolution "is a fact of history" and that "between American and Iranian basic national interests, there need be no permanent conflict."

Despite backing President Reagan on his assurances that the U.S. did not intend to "do business with the Khomeini regime as long as its policies

threaten peace and stability in the region," the secretary of state revealed that arms shipments to Iran started in June 1985. He said the administration would continue to work towards the stability and territorial integrity of all nations in the region.

Arab diplomats were quoted here as saying that the Iran affair has, in the short term, paralysed the U.S. policy in the Middle East. In the long term, however, future U.S. Mideast policies will largely depend on who stays and who goes in the American administration, the diplomats said.

A senior Jordanian diplomat in Washington said on Tuesday that Jordan did not object to a normalisation of relations between the U.S. and Iran, but added that "it should not be done at our expense." He said it was "regrettable that the U.S. used arms as a way to improve relations with Iran."

The senior embassy official, who asked not to be quoted by name, said that the U.S. credibility in the region "which is already low, has been further damaged by the Iran affair."

President Reagan said in a statement last week that "mistakes were made in the execution of the Iran policy," but indicated an adherence to the policy itself.

So far, the Reagan administration has not offered more than words to smooth the atmosphere in the Arab World and has made no final clear cut commitment to halting arms shipments to Iran. Following his failure to honour his commitments to press Congress for the sale of a \$1.9 billion air-defence package to Jordan earlier this year, President Reagan has extended his credibility problem in the region.

The Jordanian diplomat said Jordan would not oppose this American policy towards Iran if it would end the Gulf war. "But I don't think such a U.S. objective can be achieved," he said that "Iran would agree to improving

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Security Council condemns Israeli actions

UNITED NATIONS (Agencies) — The U.N. Security Council has adopted a resolution strongly condemning the shooting of "defenceless students" by the Israeli army in the occupied territories.

The United States abstained on the resolution, which was discussed at a late evening private meeting in the office of the council president, General Vernon Walters, the American delegate.

Immediately afterwards, members went into the chamber and voted.

The resolution reaffirmed that the Geneva Convention on the protection of civilians in wartime applied to Palestinian and other Arab territories under Israeli occupation, including Jerusalem.

It strongly deplored the "opening of fire by the Israeli army resulting in the death and the wounding of defenceless students."

It called on Israel to abide "immediately and scrupulously" by the Geneva Convention and urged the Jewish state to release those detained as a result of "the recent events at Birzeit University."

All concerned parties were called on to exercise maximum restraint to avoid violent acts and to contribute towards the establishment of peace.

Congo, Ghana, Madagascar, Trinidad and Tobago and the United Arab Emirates, the council's non-aligned members, formally sponsored the resolution.

The decision to act on Monday surprised a number of delegates after Gen. Walters adjourned debate after two meetings and U.N. officials indicated there would not be another meeting before late Tuesday.

There was only a brief third meeting to approve the resolution. At an afternoon session, the delegates of Britain and France both expressed concern over the recent violence involving Israelis and Palestinians.

Before the council adjourned, Israeli delegate Benjamin Netanyahu told members he rejected their debate. He called the session an organised, premeditated event that was part of a clear effort by the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) to incite violence.

The PLO provoked violence at Birzeit and used the casualties to condemn Israel before the council, Netanyahu said. He accused the organisation of trying to "liquidate Israel through terrorism."

Clovis Makoud, representative of the Arab League, replied that the question of liquidation was a red herring used to avoid Israel's withdrawal from all occupied lands.

British Ambassador John Birch told the council the killing of a Jewish youth in the Old City of Jerusalem on Nov. 15 was deplorable. So too were the actions of Jewish extremists against the Arab population there before and after that incident.

"We condemn recourse to violence by whatever side and for whatever motive," Mr. Birch said. "We have heard with concern reports of the use of excessive force by the authorities of Israel, the occupying power, including the use of live ammunition against unarmed protesters."

The killings by the Israeli forces of two Birzeit University students on Dec. 4 and that of a boy in Nablus a day later seemed to have been an overreaction and were greatly to be regretted, Mr. Birch said.

Claude de Kemourlaria of France deplored the escalation of violence and repression and said it was the duty of the Israeli authorities to respect the Geneva Convention on protection of civilians in time of war.

"These acts of violence draw attention to the urgent need to bring about a comprehensive peace settlement that is both

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Egypt condemns Israel, page 2

U.S. senators Bingaman and Levin begin visit; Edward Kennedy scheduled to arrive on Friday

AMMAN (J.T.) — Prime Minister Zaid Rifai conferred with U.S. Democratic senators Jesse Bingaman and Carl Levin, who arrived here earlier in the day on a short visit.

Sources close to the visiting congressional delegation did not give any details of the subjects the senators discussed with the Prime Minister, but described their tour in the Middle East as an "orientation mission."

The two American legislators, who accompanied by a number of their aides, arrived in Amman from Israel on Tuesday on a two-day visit to Jordan.

They are expected to go back to Israel on Thursday and then head for Egypt, the sources said.

In a separate meeting, Armed Forces Commander-in-Chief General Sharif Zaid Ibn Shaker received the two senators.

The Jordan News Agency, Petra, gave no details of the topics discussed during the meetings, but said the two meetings were attended by the U.S. charge d'affaires in Amman.

Petra said that Chief of Staff Lieutenant General Fathi Abu Taleb, a number of his aides and the U.S. military attaché to Jordan were present during Gen. Sharif Zaid's meeting with the senators at the army's headquarters.

In Tel Aviv, the Democratic senators met with Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir. A spokesman for Mr. Shamir was quoted by Reuters on Tuesday as saying that the Israeli premier reiterated to the U.S. senators his call for direct peace talks on the Palestine problem.

Meanwhile, it was learnt on Tuesday that Democratic Senator Edward Kennedy will be arriving

here on Friday on a three-day official visit to the Kingdom.

Mr. Kennedy, who is expected to be received by His Majesty King Hussein, and meet with Mr. Rifai and senior Jordanian officials, will leave Amman for Israel on Sunday. Later, he is expected to visit Egypt.

Upon arrival in Tel Aviv, Mr. Kennedy said American-Israeli relations remained good despite the current controversy over a secret arms deal with Iran and the transfer of funds to the Nicaraguan contra rebels.

Mr. Kennedy is in Israel for three days to receive an honorary doctorate.

Mr. Kennedy, who becomes chairman of the Senate Armed Services Committee in January, said he was looking forward to meeting Israeli military leaders.

Amal and PLO ignore new truce and continue fighting

MAGHDOSHEH (Agencies)

— Gunfire echoed across refugee camps in Lebanon on Tuesday, shattering the third ceasefire in four days, as Palestinian fighters dug new fortifications in this strategic southern village.

Palestinians were shovelling earth onto barricades, piling up sandbags and deepening trenches across Maghdousheh's main street when reporters arrived in an armoured vehicle under armed escort during a lull in fighting.

"We are strengthening our positions because (the Shiite Muslim militia) Amal is massing men on the other side of the village," a local Palestinian commander said.

Abrupt bursts of machinegun fire and deafening blasts from rocket-propelled grenades echoed from narrow streets wrecked by two weeks of savage see-saw battles.

PLO says 2,500 killed

BAGHDAD (R) — Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Chairman Yasser Arafat said Monday that 2,500 Palestinians had been killed or wounded by Shiite Muslim Amal militiamen during fighting at Palestinian refugee camps in Lebanon. In a statement read to reporters after a three-day meeting of the PLO Executive Committee, Mr. Arafat said thousands more had been abducted.

Maghdousheh, a village some five kilometres from the port city of Sidon, overlooks 'An Al Hilweh, Lebanon's biggest refugee camp with a population of at least 30,000.

Soviet Ambassador Vassili Kolotocha said after a meeting with Lebanese Prime Minister

Rashid Karami on Monday that his country was engaged in efforts to stop the war for control of the refugee camps.

"I have acquainted the prime minister with backstage contacts with parties involved in the conflict. These contacts still are under way," Mr. Kolotocha said. His statement was published by several Beirut newspapers on Tuesday.

Asked whether he was hopeful of a settlement between the PLO and Justice Minister Nabih Berri's Amal militia, Mr. Kolotocha said in Arabic: "We have to be optimistic."

In Beirut, residents said Tuesday a pall of smoke shrouded the battered camps of Shatila and Bourj Al Barajneh as the two sides duelled with rocket-propelled anti-tank grenades.

Tunis meeting calls for immediate Lebanon truce

TUNIS (R) — The Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) failed to obtain Arab guarantees it sought to ensure a ceasefire in the Lebanon "camps war" at a two-day emergency Arab League meeting which ended Tuesday.

But a final resolution called for an immediate truce in the fighting and an end to the siege of Palestinian refugee camps in Lebanon. It said Arab League foreign ministers would meet in Tunis again on Monday to review the issue.

PLO chief delegate Mahmoud Abbas (Abu Mazen) told reporters after the session that Arab states must decide on practical steps at next week's meeting to stop the fighting.

The PLO had proposed the creation of a committee of foreign ministers from the 21-member league to go to the region to oversee a ceasefire and a pan-Arab force to safeguard the camps.

Diplomatic sources said the committee idea was dropped largely because of Saudi Arabia's reluctance to take part.

Battles have raged for 10 weeks between Palestinians and Shiite Amal militia around the camps in Beirut and South Lebanon. More than 600 people have died.

Only four foreign ministers, from Jordan, Tunisia, Qatar and Iraq, are attending. The other countries are represented at a lower level.

In his address to the meeting on Monday, Taher Al Masri, the Jordanian foreign minister, called on the participants to develop a united Arab stance vis-a-vis the conflict, which he described as a "horrible human tragedy."

"Expressing dismay or regrets, even denouncing the assaults on the Palestinian camps in Lebanon is seen by us as an inadequate stand," he said. "It also means

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Chirac announces freeze of all reform measures

PARIS (R) — France's Gaullist Prime Minister Jacques Chirac, who has backed down on a plan for university reform in the face of student opposition, announced on Tuesday a delay on other reform measures, parliamentary sources said.

Mr. Chirac is seeking to rally his shaken supporters after withdrawing a controversial higher education bill while students prepared new demonstrations on Wednesday to mark their bitter-sweet victory.

Mr. Chirac said a special session of the National Assembly planned for next month will be cancelled, the sources said.

A controversial new code making it more difficult to obtain a student's 14-month bursary was also withdrawn from the bill, saying it was ebbs and favoured the rich.

A statement issued by the students' 14-member coordinating committee said mass marches in protest against the death of 22-year-old Malik Ousseline after a police beating in the weekend Paris violence — worst since the student revolt of May 1968 — would be under the watchwords "Never Again."

centre-right UDF coalition parties, which hold a slender majority in the National Assembly.

Political commentators say Mr. Chirac has been plunged into his gravest crisis since he ousted the Socialists from five years in office in the March general elections and began a delicate power-sharing — "cohabitation" — with Socialist President Francois Mitterrand.

Law and order was a main plank of his programme, and the higher education bill now withdrawn was aimed at improving the university structure, quality of tuition, and employment prospects for graduates. The students opposed the bill, saying it was ebbs and favoured the rich.

A statement issued by the students' 14-member coordinating committee said mass marches in protest against the death of 22-year-old Malik Ousseline after a police beating in the weekend Paris violence — worst since the student revolt of May 1968 — would be under the watchwords "Never Again."

Mr. Chirac was speaking to deputies of his Gaullist RPR and

Iraqis bomb Hamadan plant

BAHRAIN (Agencies) — Iraq said its warplanes bombed a power station at Hamadan in western Iran on Tuesday, dealing it destructive blows.

The Iraqi News Agency described the plant as a vital power station but provided no further details. Iran did not comment on the Iraqi report.

Earlier, Iran's official Islamic Republic News Agency (IRNA) said Iran fired three missiles at Iraq's port city of Basra.

The agency said the attack late Monday was in retaliation for recent Iraqi air raids.

Iraqi president visits Basra

BAGHDAD (R) — Iraqi President Saddam Hussein on Monday visited the southern port city of Basra. Baghdad Television showed President Hussein touring Basra streets and visiting families.

Iraq has not commented on the missile attacks, although it said Monday night that 22 people had been killed and 66 wounded in Basra in two days of shelling.

The daily war communique issued Monday night in Baghdad also referred to the activities of a new army corps in addition to the seven already in the field. It named the new group as the "Special First Army Corps" but gave no indication of its location.

Of the other seven corps, the first and fifth corps are deployed over the northern sector of the 1,180-kilometre front, the second corps defends the central front east of Baghdad, the Third Corps is in the east Basra sector and the Fourth Corps is located in the Misan area on the strategic Baghdad-Basra highway.

The Sixth Corps guards the dangerous marsh area east of the Tigris River on the southern front, while the Seventh Corps defends the northern part of Iraq's Fao peninsula.

American Muslim leaders cite progress in efforts to contact kidnappers

DAMASCUS (AP) — An American Muslim envoy said Tuesday he had made some progress in efforts to contact the kidnappers of foreign hostages in Lebanon.

The envoy, Mohammed Mehdi, also said chances of winning their release had fallen because the United States failed to condemn Israel's actions in the occupied West Bank.

Mr. Mehdi, who is secretary-general of the New York based National Council for Islamic Affairs, made the remarks before leaving for Beirut, where he hoped to pursue efforts to free the hostages.

Six Americans and 11 other foreigners are missing in Lebanon. Most are held by pro-Iranian Shiite extremists.

"We have been able to achieve contacts with some people who have relations with the

kidnappers," Mr. Mehdi said. "I was visited by a man I know, I know his name and phone number, and he has promised me that others will contact us in Beirut in order to allow us to reach the hostages."

He said he hoped to reach the hostages "directly" but did not elaborate.

The United Nations Security Council on Monday voted 14-0 to deplore the killing of four people by Israeli troops in the West Bank during recent demonstrations, which began at Bir Zeit University. The United States abstained.

"When we came to Beirut and

releasing the hostages were 70 per cent, but now they are down to 51 per cent," Mr. Mehdi said.

"The U.S. refused yesterday to vote condemning Israeli state terrorism against Palestinian students," he said. "As long as America behaves as a tool of Israeli terrorism, this makes our position precarious and decreases our chances."

Mr. Mehdi said he and his deputy Dale Shaheen had met with Vice President Abdul Halim Khaddam, Syria's principal expert on Lebanon, and been told they would receive "every possible help."

The two American Muslims arrived in the Syrian capital from Beirut on Friday. They flew to Lebanon last week, saying they hoped to secure the release of at least one hostage by Christmas.

Iran, Soviets hold economic talks

NICOSIA, Cyprus (AP) — Iran began economic talks with the Soviet Union on Tuesday in an effort to expand trade with a country it once dubbed a "great satan" along with the United States.

The official Islamic Republic News Agency (IRNA) quoted Economic Minister Mohammad Javad Irvani as saying "great strides" were being made toward expanding economic ties.

The Soviet delegation is headed by Konstantin Kaushiev, head of the State Committee for Foreign Economic Relations, who echoed Mr. Irvani's words by saying he hoped for a "big leap" in relations.

Mr. Irvani said that among possibilities to be discussed at the talks were setting up a joint shipping company on the Caspian Sea and sending Iranian gas exports to Europe through the Soviet Union.

Iran and the Soviet Union also have been discussing a possible joint project to build dams over the border rivers of Aras and

Atrak. The economic talks between the neighbour countries had been scheduled for 1980, but were delayed six years because of strains caused by Iran's policy of blaming many of the world's problems on Moscow and Washington.

Soviet technicians left Iran after the 1979 revolution that toppled Shah Mohammad Reza Pahlavi. Relations worsened further in 1984 when Iran expelled 16 Soviet diplomats, accusing them of spying, and cracked down on the country's pro-Moscow Communist Party, the Tudeh.

Iran has been expanding its trade with other countries, including its huge northern neighbour, partly because it needs new outlets for its goods to help pay for the 6-year-old war with Iraq. The war costs \$7 billion a day, by Iranian estimates.

Although the Soviets are bound to Iraq by a treaty of friendship and are the chief arms suppliers to

Baghdad, they also have been keen to increase their influence in Iran.

Oil Minister Gholamreza Aqazadeh visited Moscow in August.

As an upshot of the meeting, Iran resumed natural gas supplies to the Soviet Union that had been interrupted following the downfall of the shah. Iran said it would supply an estimated 3 million cubic metres a day, increasing to around 90 million by 1990.

In October, Soviet President Andrei Gromyko said he hoped the two nations could have good-neighbourly relations with "despite ideological differences."

The Soviet efforts to improve relations coincided with secret negotiations by the United States, which shipped weapons to Iran, partly in an attempt to secure Tehran's help in freeing American hostages held in Lebanon by pro-Iranian Shiite Muslims.

Shamir says captured Israeli soldiers were to be freed in Iran arms deal

TEL AVIV (R) — Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir said that Israeli soldiers held captive in Lebanon would have been freed if Israeli-brokered U.S. arms sales to Iran had not "exploded."

"If there had not been any leaks and if the affair had not exploded, we could have got to the kidnapped soldiers because it was included in our agreement with the Americans," he told reporters during a meeting of leaders of his right-wing Likud Party.

Asked if there was still a chance of securing the soldiers' release, he said: "It is now impossible to talk about it."

Foreign Minister Shimon Peres said earlier that Israel would ship

arms to Iran again if Washington asked for help. Peres, prime minister, at the time of 1985 arms sales to Tehran, was asked on state radio whether in light of the trouble it had caused President Reagan and Israel he would do it again.

"I ask myself: If I had to decide, would we have to help the United States or not, and my answer is an unflinching Yes. The United States has helped us too," he said.

Peres has repeatedly said Israel shipped U.S. arms to Iran to secure the release of American hostages, but has never made any mention of attempts to free Israeli soldiers in Lebanon.

Iran-backed Shiite Muslim fundamentalists in Lebanon were released after American arms arrived in Tehran.

Shamir told his party caucus, that Israel's role in the affair was marginal and there was no longer any concern that relations with the U.S. could be damaged over the arms sales and the diversion of proceeds to contra rebels in Nicaragua.

He said the sensation surrounding the affair was due to "irresponsible and misleading leaks" and the controversy indicated Israel's importance as an arms exporter.

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Dudin, Shawwa discuss situation in Gaza Strip

AMMAN (Petra) — Former Mayor of Gaza in the occupied Arab territories, Rashid Shawwa, on Tuesday discussed the deteriorating conditions in the Israeli-held territory with Minister of Occupied Territories Affairs Marwan Dudin. They also discussed means of enhancing the standard of living of the Arab population and ways of enabling them to resist Israel's expansionist designs in the Arab region. Mr. Shawwa voiced the appreciation of the people of the Gaza Strip to Jordan for the Kingdom's help

and for the Jordanian-sponsored projected five-year development plan to be implemented in the Gaza Strip.

He also presented the minister with requests from the people of Gaza and outlined the major projects which are needed in the Gaza Strip.

Later, Mr. Shawwa was received by Mr. Akef Al Fayez, speaker of the Lower House of Parliament with whom he reviewed the general conditions in the Israeli-held Arab territory.

Rifai confers with Sudanese leader

AMMAN (Petra) — Prime Minister Zaid Rifai on Tuesday conferred in his office with Mr. Mohammad Othman Al Mirghani, leader of Sudan's Unionist Democratic Party. During the meeting, they reviewed Arab affairs and solidarity among Arab countries.

Mr. Mirghani voiced his country's appreciation to Jordan for the assistance extended to the Sudanese people facing the consequences of famine and drought. The meeting was attended by Dr. Hussein Abu Saleh, Sudan's minister of health and social development, and members of a delegation accompanying Mr. Mirghani on his visit to Jordan.

Mr. Mirghani later called at the Royal Academy for Islamic Civilisation Research (AI Bai

Foundation) where he met with its chairman Dr. Nassereddin Al Assad and other senior officials. Dr. Assad briefed Mr. Mirghani and his delegation on the foundation's services and its drive to promote and highlight Islamic culture and heritage.

The foundation's forthcoming meeting, to be held in Amman, will discuss the various achievements accomplished since its establishment. Dr. Assad said. He also spoke about the various projects which the foundation is now undertaking. The meeting was attended by several senior government officials.

Mr. Mirghani later called at the Royal Scientific

Society (RSS) and met with its president Jawad Al Anani who outlined the society's services to the private and public sectors in Jordan and its cooperation with Arab and foreign scientific institutions.

Mr. Mirghani and his delegation toured departments at the RSS and met with the director of the solar energy unit who briefed the Sudanese guest on projects underway in the country. Dr. Anani expressed the readiness of the RSS to place its experience at the disposal of Sudan to help develop its energy resources.

Also Tuesday, the Sudanese delegation were guests of honour at a lunch hosted by Dr. Assad. Several cabinet ministers and Sudan's ambassador to Jordan were among those attending.

Mirghani tours RSS

Mr. Mirghani and his delegation later called at the Royal Scientific

Seminar on social security continues

AMMAN (J.T.) — A two-week training seminar on social security in Asian and Middle Eastern countries on Tuesday heard a lecture delivered by Mr. Vladimir Rys, secretary general of the International Social Security Association (ISSA). Mr. Rys spoke about the development of the Geneva-based ISSA and its role in promoting the development of social security systems through improving techniques and administration.

Later, in an interview with the Jordan News Agency, Petra, Mr. Rys said that although Jordan's Social Security Corporation (SSC) was only established in 1980, its operations have been wide and varied. He said that the SSC took part in various ISSA conferences which aimed at developing social security systems in the world and he added that the corporation had gained valuable experience from the gatherings and discussions.

In general, Mr. Rys said social security services have been affected by the prevailing world economic recession which had an impact on economic and social life in industrialised and Third World nations alike. In view of rising unemployment due to the economic situation, more and more pressure has been exerted on the social security services of different nations, requiring more spending and more funds. Mr. Rys continued. In these circumstances, he said, certain social security institutions resorted to lowering the retirement age as a means of reducing the volume of unemployment, and this has had an effect on the performance of social security organisations.

Sudan's health minister thanks Jordan for relief assistance

AMMAN (Petra) — Sudan's Minister of Health Hussein Abu Saleh has expressed his country's deep appreciation to Jordan for the relief supplies and assistance the Kingdom has extended to victims of famine and drought.

Dr. Abu Saleh, who was speaking during a meeting here with Health Minister Zaid Hamzeh, said that Jordan's medical teams sent to Sudan reflect the genuine brotherly ties

binding the Jordanian and Sudanese peoples. He also said that the services offered to the population of Kass in particular had greatly contributed to the improvement of health and sanitary conditions in the area.

During the meeting, the two ministers held talks on ways of bolstering Jordanian-Sudanese medical cooperation and exporting Jordanian drugs to Sudan.

Queen to patronise symposium on Arab women in public life

IRBID (Petra) — The first symposium on the role of women in public and political life in the Arab World will be held at Yarmouk University on Saturday under the patronage of Her Majesty Queen Noor.

The symposium will be held in cooperation between Yarmouk University and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO). It will deal with the types of work Arab women

undertake in public life in the Arab World.

Delegates from Jordan, Saudi Arabia, Egypt, Kuwait, Sudan, Syria, Morocco, Tunisia, South Yemen and Lebanon will also discuss the effects of economic and social changes on labour markets, the role of women's federations and organisations in promoting social and economic sectors and the future prospects for women in Arab society.

Visiting delegations review health conditions in camps

AMMAN (Petra) — The general health conditions in refugee camps in Jordan and medical services provided to Palestinian refugees were discussed on Tuesday by Dr. Ahmad Qatani, under-secretary of the Ministry of Occupied Territories Affairs, and a delegation representing the World Health Organisation (WHO) and a second delegation from the medical services of the

United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA).

Dr. Qatani and the delegations discussed the prospect of setting up a centre for the care and rehabilitation of old people in refugee camps in Jordan.

The two delegations are making a visit to Jordan with the aim of studying the prospect of setting up a health centre for aged refugees in camp on an experimental basis.

U.S. controversy falls short of sparking policy debate

(Continued from page 1)

relations with Washington only if the U.S. continued to send American arms shipments. It will not be satisfied by diplomacy alone.

The diplomat told the Jordan Times that following the new discoveries he expected foreign policy decision-making to move completely into the hands of the State Department, which was reported as Mr. Shultz's condition for staying in the administration.

On Arab reaction to the new developments, the diplomat said that "unfortunately, we are always at the receiving end of things. It's a tragedy and I say that with great regret. We are unable to initiate policies but we hope that the U.S.

government will work hard to repair the damage and restore its credibility."

The State Department denied Monday that Mr. Shultz planned a tour of the Middle East soon but said the secretary of state "may change his mind and go."

The Jordanian diplomat said that the American action was "a slap in the face" and that the Kingdom reserved its sovereign right to pursue different policies in the service of its own interests.

He said that there has been "a great effort in Washington to cover up for the Israeli role in arms shipments to Iran." Expressing his own view, the diplomat said "it was Israel which first approached the United States

to pursue this policy."

There has been little indication of the U.S. administration's willingness to press Israel to stop its shipments to Iran. Neither Mr. Shultz nor congressmen made any mention of Israel during the meeting Monday on Capitol Hill. A State Department official said the issue was "too sensitive for congressmen to discuss."

Congress and the Reagan administration have always competed for power on foreign policy issues as well as on internal problems. The Iran affair has, according to analysts, helped Congress which has been angered by the White House and the National Security Council practices, to take foreign policy into its own hands.

Israelis wound 8 Arabs

(Continued from page 1)

roadblocks outside the campus that ignited last week's student protests.

Israel ordered students to stay away from An Najah University in Nablus for a week and closed Bethlehem University for the day after students demonstrated there. The authorities said the steps were meant to restore calm.

Israeli Police Minister Haim Barlev said on Monday that the government's action against Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza had not engendered a feeling of unease or criticism among most of the coalition's cabinet members.

Mr. Barlev said that he had heard no voice of dissent from government and army policy in the West Bank among his colleagues in the cabinet.

However, various senior officials close to Labour leaders expressed "deep discomfort" with what is happening in the occupied territories, the Jerusalem Post reported. The newspaper quoted one of them as pointing out that Labour leader Shimon Peres, the former prime minister, refrained from condemning the protests as the work of "PLO inciters" which is the line taken by Prime Minister Shamir. Moreover, Mr. Peres has also refrained from publicly supporting the army's policy in the occupied territories, the Post noted.

Arab ministers end meeting

(Continued from page 1)

that we are disregarding any solutions to the conflict."

Calling on all Arab states to put an end to the bloodshed, he said, "We have to unite our sincere efforts to march towards our pan-Arab nationalism."

Jordan, he said, agreed to participate in the extraordinary meeting because of the Kingdom's commitment to the Palestine cause and added that the two-month old "camps war" had "drained the Palestinian's capabilities to fight their prime enemy: the Israelis."

He said the conflict was only benefiting the "enemies of our umma and who are trying to tear apart our nation and to undermine

its dignity."

Mr. Masri expressed the Kingdom's "surprise that the camps war in Lebanon coincided with the week-long assaults on Palestinian citizens in the occupied West Bank."

He said Israel's actions against the civilians in the occupied West Bank came at a time when Israel has also backed the Iranian regime in its war with Iraq.

Mr. Masri expressed hope that the meeting would come out with an effective solution which "reflects our hopes in ending the ongoing war, separating the fighting parties, breaking the siege imposed on the camps and providing them security."

"If we succeed in doing so, we will halt Israel's aggression on the area," said the foreign minister.

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Senate endorses six draft laws on municipal elections, councils

By Sa'ad G. Hattar
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The Upper House of Parliament (Senate) on Tuesday endorsed, by a show of hands vote, six draft laws pertaining to the municipalities law and loan agreements from Arab funds. The laws were approved as presented to the Senate's legal and financial committees by the Lower House of Parliament.

Amendments to the municipalities laws included a draft law to the 1977 law on municipal elections. The amendment states that any municipal employee is banned from nominating himself for elections unless he or she submits his or her resignation ten days prior to the scheduled nomination day.

Another draft municipal law for the year 1982 stated that when forming a new municipality, the minister of interior appoints a municipal council which, in its turn, is entitled to nominate a chairman from the council's members. Members of the municipal council are not entitled to maintain their posts for more than two years and in the meantime, a permanent municipal council will have been elected in accordance with municipal laws.

The original draft had the term "from the residents of the same township" as a clause for the formation of a municipal council and under the original law, a

newly-formed municipal council was to be formed for a term of only one year.

Greater Amman municipality Another law endorsed in the session, as read out by the Senate's legal committee rapporteur Ahmad Tarawneh, was a 1986 draft law on municipalities designed to pave the way for incorporating 12 municipalities and four municipal councils under the Greater Amman municipality project. The vote was unanimously approved during the 15-minute session which was presided over by Senate Speaker Ahmad Al Lawzi. The session was attended by Prime Minister Zaid Rifai and Cabinet ministers.

Under the proposed Greater Amman municipality scheme, the project will pass through two transitional stages before the scheme is completed. The first four-year phase entails a plan under which Amman Municipality and the concerned town councils and municipalities will be dissolved and replaced by a

Greater Amman council. Under the second and final stage, the municipalities will have direct elections to vote for their representatives who will then join the council of the Greater Amman municipality. The head of the municipality will be appointed by the Cabinet.

Draft loan agreements

Following the endorsement of the municipal draft laws, rapporteur of the Senate's financial committee Khalil Al Salem read out two draft loan agreements between Jordan on one side and the Kuwaiti Fund for Economic Development and the Saudi Fund for Development on the other.

The draft agreements cover loans for financing the Zarqa River Basin Project and the Zarqa-Ghor Hadithah road respectively from both funds. The amount of the loans were not disclosed.

At the outset of Monday's session the legislators stood in silence for one minute and read a Koranic verse to mourn Ahmad Khalil, a former member of Parliament, who passed away earlier this week. On Tuesday, the Lower House's financial committee was holding a lengthy session to discuss the 1986 budget which had earlier been forwarded to the House by the minister of finance. No details emerged from the behind-the-scenes discussions.

Jordan, Turkey sign programme for scientific and cultural cooperation

AMMAN (Petra) — Turkey and Jordan on Tuesday signed an executive programme for implementing a bilateral agreement on cooperation in cultural and scientific fields for the coming two years.

The programme, signed by the director of cultural affairs at the Turkish Foreign Ministry, Mr. Erdogan Aynun, and Dr. Ahmad Al Bashaieh, secretary general of the Ministry of Education, provides for increased bilateral exchanges of expertise in cultural affairs and for holding joint conferences involving universities in Jordan and Turkey.

In the educational sphere, the two sides agreed to promote their cooperation in developing academic and vocational training at schools and institutes of higher learning in accordance with an agreement signed in 1981. They will also step up technical and cultural cooperation between Yarmouk University and the Middle East University in Ankara, according to an agreement signed in 1982.

The two sides will exchange results of scientific research, visits by teachers of schools and universities, and will consult on matters related to school textbooks, reference books and maps and employing teachers from the either country's

universities for employment lasting at least one academic year.

The Turkish side agreed to offer 30 scholarships to Jordanian students to study at Turkish universities for their first university degree and 10 more for post graduate studies. Jordan agreed to offer two scholarships for Turkish postgraduate students to study at Jordanian universities and five scholarships for the first university degree in Arabic and Islamic studies in addition to five others at the Amman college for engineering.

The programme also provides for exchanging visits by sports and youth teams and holding sports events and Turkey agreed to include Jordanian youths in youth camps held annually in Turkey. Both sides agreed to exchange books and periodicals, especially those featuring the history of Jordan and Turkey, and Turkey

will send a folklore troupe to take part in the Jerash Festival of Culture and Arts.

Both sides also agreed to hold cultural weeks to highlight the two countries' cultural heritage. They will also hold art exhibitions and cooperate in restoring cultural and archaeological sites in both countries.

Visit to Yarmouk

Mr. Erdogan Aynun and his delegation later called at Yarmouk University where they met with its president Mohammad Hamdan. They were discussed cooperation in cultural affairs between Jordanian and Turkish universities and were briefed on Yarmouk University's programmes. The delegation later toured a number of departments on the campus.

Regional symposium continues

AMMAN (Petra) — A three-day regional symposium on the development of pastures and range land in Arab countries on Tuesday discussed one of the projects to be implemented in Jordan with help from the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO).

The delegates discussed basic

elements to make the project a success and the choice of suitable sites for pasture lands in Jordan.

Agreement was reached at the meeting on setting up a national committee of specialists from Jordan to study the most suitable areas where pasture land projects are to be implemented before further steps can be taken.



The Fine Arts Brass Ensemble — in concert tonight

The best of British brass

By Jean-Claude Elias
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — The British Council in Amman is organising a music concert on Wednesday Dec. 10 at the Royal Cultural Centre (RCC) at 8:00 p.m. A first class musical group, the Fine Arts Brass Ensemble, will play works ranging from classical to jazz and light music.

The five members of the ensemble, Andy Culshaw — trumpet, Bryan Waller — trumpet, Stephen Roberts — horn, Simon Hogg — trombone and Owen Slade — tuba, are outstanding musicians combining technical skills with fine musicianship and a human touch. The aim of the quintet obviously is to make enjoyable music, and they seem to be quite successful in that sense. Whether playing the famous Canon of Pachelbel or jazz numbers by Fats Waller, they give the pleasant impression to have integrated each of these different styles into their own personality.

Their amazing rendering of Vivaldi's Winter, which is as well known, is meant to be performed by strings, their smooth passage from "Five Foot Two, Eyes of Blue" to Handel's Fireworks leave the listener wondering how it is possible to cover such a wide range with such elegance and taste.

The arrangements that Stephen Roberts makes for the quintet have certainly a lot to do with the quality of their sound.

The Fine Arts Brass Ensemble was formed in 1980 and its members have not changed since. One of the best brass groups of Britain, and probably the only one fully dedicated to the music, each of its members is in great demand as a soloist in his country, with activities covering British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC) commissions, recordings, etc.

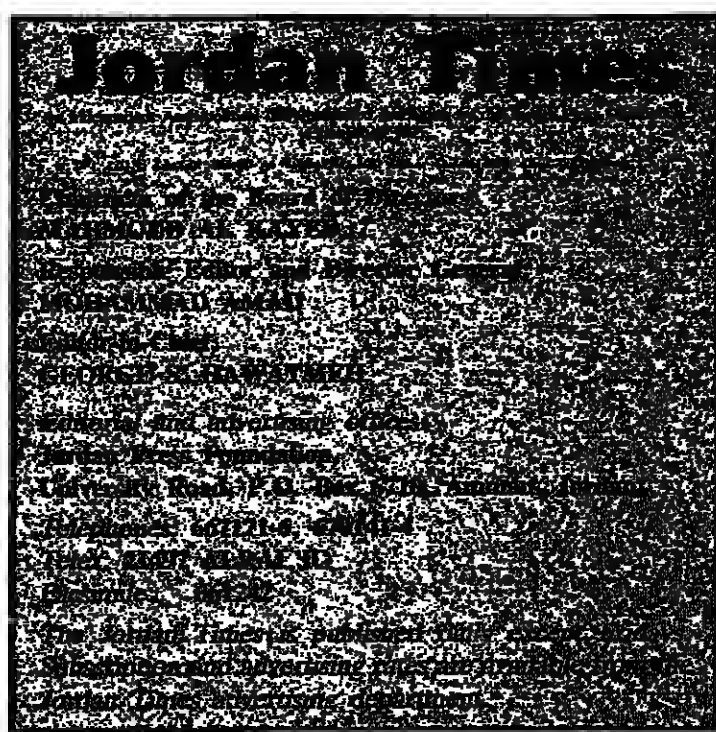
One of their albums, bearing the title "Pastime with Good Company", includes early jazz compositions. Another album is more oriented towards contemporary works by English composers.

MUSIC PREVIEW

The important added value is beyond any doubt, the personal presence of the ensemble. They have an exceptional "knack" for contact with the audience. Their photographs showing all smiling faces are an open invitation to share and enjoy the music. But the apparent ease with which they play is certainly the result of a lot of work on the music.

"They're guaranteed to raise a smile," the Beatles once said about their Sergeant Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band. Not that the Fine Arts Brass Ensemble is to be compared to the Beatles' imaginary band, but the joy they inspire is a common element.

Come to the ensemble performance and watch brass turn to gold.



League is right forum

ALTHOUGH the emergency Arab foreign ministers meeting in Tunis started off with a passionate appeal by the secretary-general of the Arab League, Chadi Klbi, to put an immediate end to the inter-Arab fighting in Lebanon, the participation at the meeting by only four Arab foreign ministers out of 21 is most disappointing. This does not augur well for the need to end the fratricidal war between Amal militiamen and Palestinian fighters.

Equally disappointing is the position of Lebanon on the Amal-Palestinian fighting on Lebanese territory. By asserting that the bloodshed there is strictly a domestic issue, and that not even an Arab group within the context of the Arab League can address it, the Lebanese government, in effect, is giving the concept of domestic jurisdiction a meaning which is rejected by the whole international community. The notions of sovereignty and domestic jurisdiction have undergone evolution through international law, and the U.N. has over the years gradually restricted their meaning. That is why issues like atrocities, massacres, and gross and persistent violations of human rights are now subjects which fall within the scope of international jurisdiction.

Now, if the international community can address such issues no matter where they have been perpetrated, the Arab League should be able to deal with such matters, especially if they occur within the territory of one of the Arab League members. None of the same Arabs would dream of attempting to encroach on the sovereignty of Lebanon, a country which is dear to all of us in the Arab World. But one has to keep in perspective that within the one greater Arab family, one must not invoke the arguments of sovereignty and domestic jurisdiction liberally, but rather more restrictively. In this context, it would be most disappointing if wars of the kind which have been going on in Lebanon for the past 11 years are construed as issues that fall outside the scope of inter-Arab concern.

It would be very sad indeed and a great setback to the principle of pan-Arabism if the Arab foreign ministers' meeting in Tunis is concluded without tangible results and without stopping the bleeding in Lebanon. Whatever the arguments or views of the two antagonist groups in Lebanon, they should be aired out in an Arab forum, at least. Or should we, the Arabs, go and seek redress to our inter-Arab conflicts in an international forum? The views of Lebanon on this particular issue of war between Amal and Palestinian forces are most relevant and important in the ultimate resolution of the chronic inter-factional fighting on the soil of Lebanon. But the Arab League foreign ministers' meeting would have been the right forum to hear them out and act on them. A compromise is still possible which would reconcile the principles and views of all sides to the ongoing bloody conflict in Lebanon. The Arab League is and should be the most appropriate forum for finding such a compromise.

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i: Zionist murderers

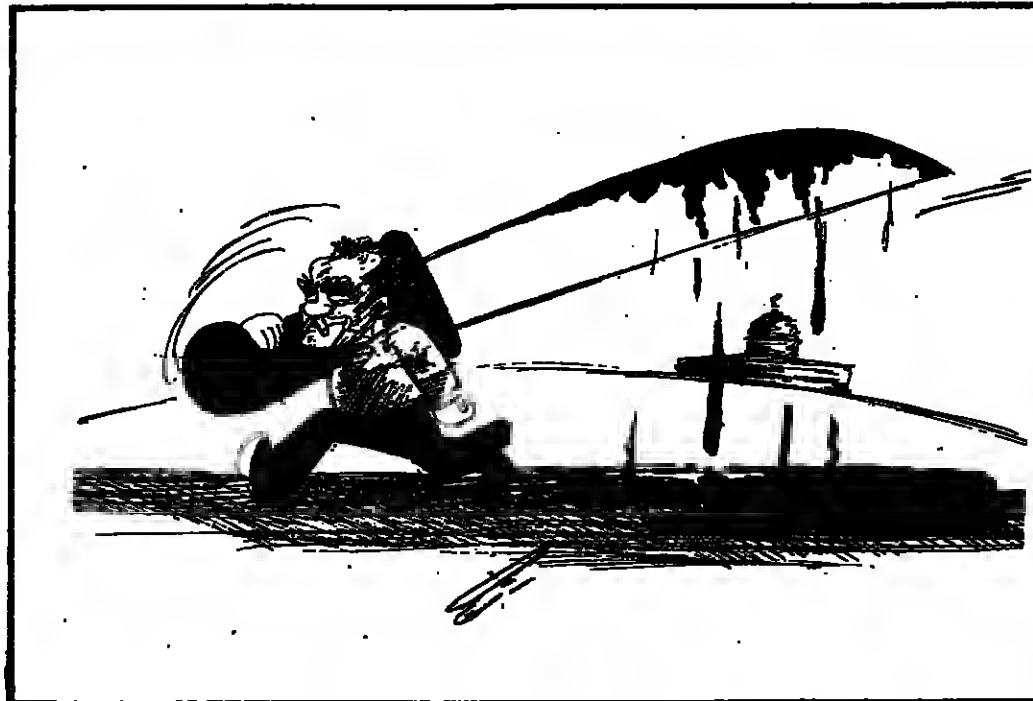
IT is not surprising that a government led by Shamir and a group of murderers, who have a long record in crime, pursue a criminal campaign against our people in the occupied West Bank and the Gaza Strip. It is not surprising that the Zionists are carrying out their atrocities in the occupied Arab land while Zionists friends abroad keep a closed eye and maintain silence about the war of terrorism being waged on our people. The Israelis, following on the footsteps of the South African regime have been continually killing men, women and children, demolishing homes and bombarding refugee camps while the so-called civilised world is tight lipped, not lifting a finger in protest. It is time that we stopped believing lies and falsehoods from Israel's friends who claim that they are concerned over humanity and are determined to fight terrorism. The friends of Israel continue to fuel terrorism by shipping arms to the extremists and encouraging the Zionists to carry on a war of genocide against the Arab population under their rule. The Arab martyrs who fell in Palestine have been assassinated by the Israeli enemy together with those who continue to brag about human rights and those who continue to hatch plots against the Palestinians inside and outside the occupied land. It is not surprising that the Arab people of Palestine are continually being killed or displaced by the enemies of humanity at the hands of the Zionists in Palestine who are being encouraged in their actions by the enemies of peace.

Al Dustour: Arab indifference

THE Arab foreign ministers council held a meeting at the Arab League headquarters in Tunis amid an extremely dangerous situation to seek an end to the bloodshed in Lebanon and to put an end to the brutal Shi'ite attacks on the Palestinian refugee camps. The attacks also coincide with a stepped up campaign by the Israeli authorities against the Arab people of the occupied West Bank and the Gaza Strip. The killing of Arab youths in the West Bank looks as if it was synchronised with the Shi'ite attacks on the Palestinians in Lebanon, and this places an added serious task to the agenda of the Arab ministers in Tunis. But the poor attendance of the foreign ministers meeting and the failure of Arab foreign ministers even to send representatives to take part in the deliberations, indicate that Arab countries are no more interested in the Palestine problem and the future of the Palestinians. Many of the Arab countries have entrusted their permanent representatives at the Arab League to attend, something which points to the Arab countries' indifference. But it also points to the prevailing weak Arab Nation and the state of disarray and disunity among the Arabs who should show real solidarity and take up joint efforts to bring an end to the conflict in Lebanon and also confront Israel.

Sawt Al Shaab: Looking towards Tunis

THE Arab foreign ministers have a formidable task to perform in Tunis as they have to stop the fighting in Lebanon and at the same time tackle the situation arising from the continuous killing of Arabs at the hands of the Israeli enemy. What the Arab masses expect now is speedy action that can provide protection to the Palestinian refugees in their camps in Lebanon and a hope for those suffering from the yoke of Israeli rule. By stopping the bloodshed in Lebanon, the Arab foreign ministers would be helping the Beirut government to maintain its sovereignty and provide security in the country and ensure peace for the future. Ending the "camps war" in Lebanon would mean providing an atmosphere that would enable the Lebanese and the residents of the refugee camps to coexist peacefully and would direct the Arab countries' attention to the Israeli enemy now involved in a war of genocide against the Palestinian people. The Arab foreign ministers would bring us hope if they took a meaningful action or if they initiated a joint Arab action in Lebanon to ensure peace for all parties. What the foreign ministers should seek is common ground on which all warring factions can meet and look into the prospect of ending fighting and beginning peace negotiations.



Israel's link with Iran

The following article by Ian Black is reprinted from The Guardian.

HISTORICAL perspective may not provide much comfort to the U.S. National Security Council officials who have burned their fingers and ruined their careers by trading in the dubious business of arms for hostages. But no one, as the argument about the controversial American-Israeli deal continues, should have been surprised to learn that the Jewish state has long had close links with Iran.

From the early days of the Zionist enterprise in Palestine, attempts were made to break out of the constricting hostility of Arab nationalism and forge friendships with non-Arab or non-Muslim people and minorities in the region. It started back in the 1930s and over the years there were relations, open or covert, with Turkey, Iran, Ethiopia and groups like the Iraqi Kurds, Lebanese Maronites and Syrian Druze.

Iran, though, was always the jewel in the crown of Israel's "periphery" policy. In the heyday of the relationship, after the 1967 war when the Shah still sat on his peacock throne, Iran "policed" the Gulf, and Israel the rest of the Arab East.

Trade, defence co-operation, intelligence exchanges and a common enemy to the Arabs were what made the relationship tick. Israeli agents helped the Iraqi Kurdish rebellion from bases in Iran and there was oil, in plenty, in return.

Ostensibly, everything collapsed in 1979, when the revolution triumphed and the Shah fled. The Israeli embassy in Tehran was handed over, deliberately and demonstratively, to the PLO. The message of the Mullahs was clear, but the relationship continued apace albeit with greater difficulty and in greater secrecy. Years of determined investment in wide web of contacts, in business, the military and the Iranian bureaucracy, were damaged, but not swept away. And the position of Iranian Jews had to be considered, too.

The outbreak of the Gulf war in September 1980 posed a serious strategic dilemma for Israel. Iraq, despite its lack of a common border with the Israelis, had always been one of its most implacable Arab enemies and participated in the wars of 1948, 1967 and 1973. Israel's Iran lobby, a large but amorphous group of defence and intelligence officials, businessmen and well-connected arms dealers believed that they should be running the show.

It is still unclear whether there has ever been a serious debate about the subject, but the need to prevent an Iraqi victory, and forestall the day when Iraq's 40 divisions and battle-hardened air force can be turned on Israel, was and is seen as more important than doubts about the wisdom or propriety of dealing with Khomeini's Iran.

Valuable intelligence — handed on to the Americans at a time

when their own sources in Tehran had been decimated by the post-revolutionary purges — was a powerful ancillary argument for maintaining the relationship, and, for the U.S. for turning a blind eye to what was going on.

No one knows exactly how much military equipment has been sold to Iran by the Israelis since the start of the war. But, according to one estimate, about half of the \$200 million worth of arms, spare parts and ammunition delivered from western Europe in the first 18 months of the fighting was supplied or arranged by Israel. The remainder was provided by dealers on the international market, some of whom, like the mysterious Ya'Acov Nimrodi, a former Mossad secret service agent and Israeli military attaché in Tehran, had close links with officials in Tel Aviv.

It remains, therefore, impossible to estimate whether Israeli supplies to the Khomeini regime have in themselves proved decisive in allowing the continued pursuit of the war. What is clear, however, is that the extensive Israeli ties, predating the recent arms-for-hostages affair, provided the Americans with a ready-made and proven mechanism for trying to get back their captives from Lebanon and open doors to a regime that must change the way the hateful Ayatollah finally dies.

One lesson of all this is that American and Israeli interests in the Gulf are far from identical. Israeli access and expertise is one thing, but motives are another. Amidst the angry denials from Tel Aviv about illegal activities and cash for the Nicaraguan contras, there has been nothing to suggest that Israel had anything to gain but the gratitude of a powerful friend in need, as well, perhaps, as improving the chances for the release of its own soldiers held by pro-Iranian groups in Lebanon.

But would it not, for example, also be useful for Israel if the U.S. were to be seen by the moderate Arab regimes it counts as its friends in the Middle East to be aiding Iran? Iran as an enemy is far more dangerous to the U.S. than to Israel if Tehran should succeed in defeating Iraq. Israeli critics of the revelations of the past few days have taken this point and argued that the whole affair will badly damage the chances of improving relations with Egypt and Jordan, two of Iraq's staunchest backers in its struggle against the ancient Persian foe.

Israel's clandestine relationship with the ayatollahs of Tehran, therefore, is in a profound historical sense, a product of the assumption of undying hostility on the part of the Arab World. This assumption seems unlikely to change.

The basic geo-political interests which originally dictated an Israeli-Iranian link were far from being a mere whim of the Shah's, one Israeli commentator noted recently. "These common interests will remain valid when the present religious fervour on which the Khomeini regime is based has run its course and begun to wane."

American leaders ought to read history

By William Pfaff

PARIS — It is a deep fault of the United States as a world power that its leaders do not read history. If the members of President Reagan's National Security Council understood history, Mr. Reagan would not be in the jam he is in today. The United States would not have been humiliated by the Iranian arms sales.

Ordinary Americans read history. Books on the past by journalists and the professionals willing to defy academic fashion sell very well. But people in power, and those who want power, study political science and strategic analysis rather than the real national and social conflicts of the past. They "model" political systems and create theories of conflict and "games" of rivalry and negotiation. They pattern themselves on the methodologies of natural science.

Two important consequences follow. The first is that every crisis tends to come as a surprise. Models are abstractions. History is lived reality. Without a developed knowledge of the past, every new challenge is interpreted as if it were a unique phenomenon. When policy orientation is sought in the past, it is not in the historical past of the specific situation, but in some event, objectively unrelated, which seems exemplary — "Munich," "Sarajevo," "the loss of China," "the Bay of Pigs."

The second result is that policy is thought a matter of manipulation. It is assumed that

political and military manipulation or manoeuvre is the answer to large problems. A religious revolution in Iran? Identify an alienated or complaisant general or "moderate" political figure and give him and his friends money and guns. A revolutionary government in Nicaragua? Round up some able-bodied exiles, put them under direct or indirect U.S. command and tell them to overthrow that government.

by secret agents of the French monarchy working to undermine Britain.

People with a grasp of history know that the crises of today are often current outbursts of deep and enduring social or political tides from the past. One may contain the immediate damage that these outbursts do, or even deflect the tide a degree or two from its present course, but that, too often, is the best you can do.

The author of the policy of

People with a grasp of history know that the crises of today are often current outbursts of deep and enduring social or political tides from the past. One may contain the immediate damage that these outbursts do, or even deflect the tide a degree or two from its present course, but that, too often, is the best you can do.

When President Reagan made his much derided comparison of the Nicaraguan "contras" to America's 18th century founding fathers, he actually was displaying, in his confused way, more historical sense than the people in his White House who have been running the contras operation. Mr. Reagan grasps that the contras ought to be like the staunch Colonial gentlemen who took up arms, pledging their sacred honour, to make their country independent. But the founding fathers were not brought together, paid for and controlled

"containment" of the Soviet Union, George Kennan, wrote in 1947 that it would be idle to think that the United States could "bring about the early fall of Soviet power in Russia." What Washington might do was "increase enormously the strains under which Soviet policy must operate," with the purpose of promoting "tendencies which must eventually find their outlet in either the breakup or the gradual mellowing of Soviet power."

This was a realistic policy, which the events of 40 years have vindicated. The Soviet Union has

progressed from Stalin to Mikhail Gorbachev.

A knowledge of history forces upon a policy maker a certain detachment, a sense of proportion. Ambassador Keenan once compared the practice of foreign policy to gardening. You have to be patient; you have to understand the soil and the plants; you can't pull things up every week to see whether the roots have grown. Unfortunately, mechanics are in charge in Washington, people who can't wait, who think there is a material or military fix for every threat.

Congress and the press are concentrating for the moment on whether the White House has lied about who really is responsible for the Iran-Nicaragua affair. If it turns out that Donald Regan, the presidential chief of staff — who said it was "ridiculous" to suggest that he knew about finding the contras with Iranian arms money and he had "never heard of it" before he read about it in the papers — is lying, things will go very badly for the administration. If it turns out that the president had been told what was going on under his nose and with his authority, Mr. Reagan's presidency risks being destroyed.

But behind it all is an American social phenomenon: an obstinate indifference to anything except immediate issues and immediate results, and a conviction — in the teeth of the evidence — that any problem can be fixed: that there is nothing that money, or guns cannot buy. — International Herald Tribune.

Zia in firm control one year after ending martial law

By Barry Renfrew
The Associated Press

ISLAMABAD, Pakistan — One year after he lifted martial law, President Mohammad Zia Ul Haq appears firmly in control of Pakistan.

Gen. Zia, who seized power in a 1977 military coup, lifted martial law after 8½ years on Dec. 30, 1985. In doing so, he warned that he would not tolerate political chaos in his country. One year later the general appears more in control than ever, with his opponents in disarray after a major confrontation with Gen. Zia.

Benazir Bhutto, the country's top opposition leader and Gen. Zia's hitherto opponent, has abandoned a deadline she set for the president's removal. Miss Bhutto, who had been confidently drawing up plans during the summer for running the government, now admits the opposition will have to wait longer than expected to take power.

"Unfortunately we were pre-empted and therefore the time schedule (for taking power) has to be readjusted," she told the Associated Press in a recent interview. "This does not mean one should lose heart."

This nation of some 100 million people has spent more than half of its history under military rule since it was created in 1947.

"The basic issue before the people is how to do away with the persistent interference of the armed forces in political affairs and how to make them realise that they should restrict themselves to their primary duty of defending the country," said political scientist Minhaj Bana.

Gen. Zia intends to remain in power until at least 1990, and he continues to combine the post of president with his position as chief of staff of the armed forces — his power base. Gen. Zia says democracy has been restored with the creation of a civilian government under his appointee, Prime Minister Mohammad Khan Junejo.

Many Pakistanis agree that the country now enjoys a considerable degree of political liberty and that the press is unrestrained. "We may be as free now as we have ever been," said a senior newspaper editor opposed to Gen. Zia, who asked not to be named.

But the country's main opposition parties, grouped in the Movement for the Restoration of Democracy, contend that democracy has not been restored and the military continues to rule Pakistan behind a civilian facade. The MRD continues to demand Gen. Zia's removal and immediate national elections.

There were many indications in the summer that the opposition was gathering the strength to

reach that goal. In April, Miss Bhutto was greeted by the largest crowd in Pakistan's history — more than a million people — when she returned from self-imposed exile, and hundreds of thousands of people flocked to see her as she toured the country in triumph.

Miss Bhutto, compared hysome to Corazon Aquino of the Philippines, predicted that Gen. Zia would soon be forced to flee. The 33-year-old opposition leader told Gen. Zia to step down by September or face the consequences.

But Gen. Zia and Mr. Junejo moved first, rounding up hundreds of opposition leaders in August after the prime minister said the opposition had ignored his plea to be reasonable. The crackdown brought the opposition to the streets. But it quickly became apparent that few people were willing to risk death to remove Gen. Zia, and the protests fizzled out after about two weeks with some 30 people dead.

Miss Bhutto and her chief supporters had calculated that the armed services would abandon Gen. Zia if a showdown in the streets led to soldiers being ordered to fire on the people. The army removed two other military strongmen in the past rather than fire on protesters.

But this calculation went awry as it became apparent that Gen.

Zia had the strong support of the military and many Pakistanis did not want upheaval.

The MRD also was hobbled by serious differences within its own ranks, with most parties mistrustful of Miss Bhutto's dominant Pakistan Peoples Party.

Many Pakistanis also retained unhappy memories of Miss Bhutto's father, the late Prime Minister Zulfikar Ali Bhutto, who ruled Pakistan with an increasingly strong hand that crushed democracy and opposition until he was ousted by Gen. Zia and the military.

Mr. Bhutto was hanged in 1979 on murder charges.

But few observers are writing off the opposition, and the MRD is determined to challenge Gen. Zia again. The government is adamant that it will not agree to elections before scheduled 1990 polls.

Miss Bhutto says the opposition must work to build a strong political organisation capable of taking on the government and it must work to unite the people against Gen. Zia. The opposition also must try to heal its own divisions, she said.

But she no longer talks of giving the government deadlines.

"We have to create the right atmosphere again, and we will create it again, but I don't think we should give deadlines as such," she said.

Opposition calls off Seoul rally, seeks renewed dialogue

By Roger Crabb

SEOUL — South Korea's main opposition party has bowed to government intransigence and scrapped plans for a huge rally in Seoul this weekend to press for democratic reform.

After a week of well-publicised confusion, leaders of the New Korea Democratic Party (NKDP) Monday night finally halted preparations for the rally, which they were hoping to stage at Seoul's Olympic stadium. The authorities had made it clear they would use every possible means to thwart the demonstration.

On November 29, a previous NKDP attempt to hold a mass protest in one of the capital's parks was foiled when tens of thousands of combat police sealed off all entrances to the site and used tear gas liberally to

discourage attempts at assembly. This setback threw the party, a coalition of opposition factions directed in uneasy tandem by dissidents Kim Young-Sam and Kim Dae-Jung, into a fit of indecision.

The opposition party had taken to the streets after failing in parliament to persuade the ruling camp even to discuss their demands for the holding of direct elections next year to elect a successor to President Chun Doo Hwan.

The NKDP, which contests Chun's legitimacy and calls him a dictator, says such elections are the only way to ensure true democracy in South Korea.

Supporters of the president, who won a seven-year term in 1981 in a vote by a 5,000-strong electoral college, reject a direct presidential poll as an invitation to

demagoguery.

They are pushing instead for adoption of a strong parliamentary system of government in which the prime minister wields the real power with the president's role reduced virtually to that of a figurehead.

In July the NKDP agreed to take part in a special national assembly committee discussing the form of the country's proposed new constitution, but by the end of September — with the two sides poles apart and camping on their positions — the opposition group withdrew.

Then two Kims and NKDP president Lee Min-Woo, fearing the government would abandon the search for consensus and seek to push its constitutional plan through parliament unilaterally, opted to try and mobilise massive public support under their banner

demanding direct presidential elections and what they called the Chun government's attempt to perpetuate its rule.

But their November 29 attempt to stage a monster rally in the capital, to which the more sanguine NKDP leaders hoped to attract one million people, fizzled in face of the overwhelming police presence. Would-be demonstrators were so outnumbered that one U.S. newspaper carried the headline: "Seoul police hold big rally."

The government rubbed its hard-line message just days later when, in face of an NKDP boycott of parliament protesting at suppression of its rally, it had its members unilaterally vote through the 1987 budget in a private room.

The NKDP immediately sub-

resigned to party president Lee, but they never took effect.

Pro-government media began suggesting that the ruling Democratic Justice Party (DJP) was now drawing up a timetable for having its parliamentary constitution voted into law, with or without opposition support.

This prompted NKDP calls for the dissolution of the assembly.

Meanwhile party leaders announced they would try to stage simultaneous street protests in Seoul and 10 provincial cities on December 13. The government, as it had done before November 29, vowed to thwart their attempts on the grounds that any such mass gatherings held the risk they might be taken over by pro-Communist radicals.

That decision was welcomed Tuesday by the head of the ruling DJP, Roh Tae-Woo.

"The NKDP has learned a lesson from the fact that they," Roh said, "think they can overthrow the government by force."

concentrate on the Seoul rally. They suggested holding it not on the streets, but in the Olympic stadium, an offer the government — which prides itself on the spanking new facilities built for the 1988 summer games — not surprisingly spurned.

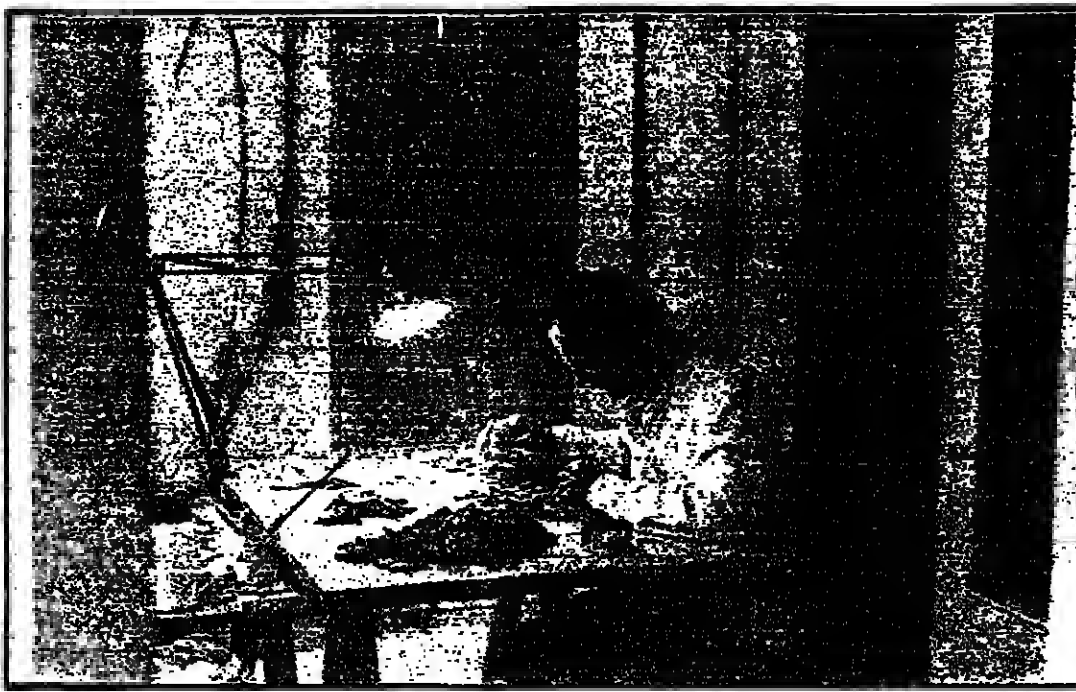
Finally, after more than a week of discussions within the NKDP leadership, the decision was taken Monday night to stage the rally idea altogether for the time being and seek to break the political deadlock through dialogue.

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Francois Villeneuve (left) and colleagues working at the excavations of Khirbet edh-Dharieh last year



A lab technician at work at IFAPO in Amman

French increase archaeological work in Jordan

By Rami G. Khouri
Special to the Jordan Times

On Nov. 25, 1986, Her Majesty Queen Noor opened in Paris an exhibition depicting 9000 years of arts in Jordan. Rami Khouri attended the opening and described the exhibition in an article which appeared in the Nov. 26th issue of the Jordan Times. In the following article the writer reviews French scholars' contributions to the archaeology of Jordan.

AMMAN — Visitors to the splendid exhibition of Jordanian antiquities on display at the Luxembourg Museum in Paris will notice that several very impressive ancient objects come from sites that have been recently excavated in Jordan by French archaeologists.

This is both a sign of the times and a harbinger of things to come, for during the past decade French archaeologists, historians, architectural restorers and other scholars have significantly increased their work in Jordan, contributing to serious, long-term French involvement in the study of ancient Jordan.

Most French archaeological activities in Jordan are coordinated by one of two bodies: the Amman-based Institut Français d'Archéologie du Proche-Orient (French Archaeological Institute of the Near East), more often known by its acronym IFAPO, or the Ecole Biblique in Jerusalem.

IFAPO was formally established in Amman in 1977, and has been involved directly or indirectly in a dozen major digs and restoration projects. The

Ecole Biblique, founded in 1890, is conducting two digs and associated survey work in Jordan.

While some of the earliest travellers, explorers and biblical archaeologists who investigated the land on the banks of the Jordan in the 19th and early 20th century were highly renowned French scholars, most French archaeological excavations during the last 50 years have concentrated on Lebanon and Syria. The French-sponsored Archaeological Institute of Beirut, established in 1946, had grown into an important research centre by the mid-1970s, with a library of 30,000 volumes. When the Lebanese war forced the institute briefly to suspend operations in 1977 and pack up its library in boxes and crates for protection, French archaeological work in the region made a permanent shift in its orientation and fields of activity.

In that year, it expanded its activities in Syria and Jordan, started excavating the Hellenistic palace at Iraq Al Emir, near Wadi Seer, and established IFAPO offices in Amman and Damascus. The Beirut Institute, then under

the direction of noted French scholar of the Classical Middle East Dr. Ernest Will, changed its name to IFAPO to reflect more accurately its wider scope of work throughout the Near East, though the head office remained in safer new quarters on Beirut's Rue de Damas.

The current director of IFAPO in the Middle East, Mr. Georges Tate, was in Amman recently to attend celebrations marking another milestone in French archaeological work in Jordan — the opening of IFAPO's new Amman offices in a spacious villa between the 3rd and 4th Circles of Jabal Amman. The IFAPO Amman office, headed by IFAPO Assistant Director Dr. Francois Villeneuve, will help launch a more activist new phase in French archaeological work in Jordan.

Dr. Villeneuve, a ten-year-veteran of excavations in Jordan and southern Syria, told the Jordan Times in a recent interview that the new building will permit IFAPO to continue its participation in excavations and restoration work in Jordan. The institute will also offer an expanded lecture series, a specialised library open to public use, a programme to produce a series of archaeological maps of Jordan, and more scholarly publications.

IFAPO's activities are funded totally by the French foreign ministry, and are carried out in Jordan by a full-time staff of five

archaeologists, architects and draughtsmen — Dr. Villeneuve, Francois Larche, Jacques Seigne, Jean-Pierre Lange and Philippe Thevenin.

IFAPO officially sponsors five digs in Jordan at the moment. These are the Nabataean village/temple complex at Khirbet edh-Dharieh, south of Wadi Hasa, headed by Dr. Villeneuve; the Camp Hill excavations at Jerash, headed by Frank Braemer, head of the IFAPO office in Damascus; the Jerash area survey headed by Jean Sabin; the Jerash excavations and restoration at and around the Zeus Temple Sanctuary, headed by Jacques Seigne but financed by the Jordanian Department of Antiquities; and the study and conservation of the painted frescos at the Quweilbeh tombs, north of Irbid, conducted by Alix Barbet, Claude Vibert-Guigue, Marylene Barret and Patrick Blanc.

Other projects financed by the Jordanian government and enjoying French participation include the excavation and restoration of the Hellenistic palace at Iraq Al Emir, the architectural study of the Qasr Al Bint Nabataean temple at Petra, Francois Larche works on both projects, in association with Jordanian colleagues.

The broad range of archaeological investigations being undertaken by French specialists, spanning the prehistoric period to the Umayyad

era, includes the following other projects:

— a study of prehistoric tools and other cultural artifacts in a broad zone north-east and south-east of Amman and Zarqa, headed by Francis Hours and sponsored by the French National Centre for Scientific Research (CNRS) and the Maison de L'Orient at Lyon;

— a geological-archaeological survey of the Ajlun region by Jean-Sabin of the CNRS;

— aerial photography and archaeological cartography work at Petra by Maurice Gory and Pierre Gentelle, sponsored by the CNRS and the French National Geographic Institute, in cooperation with the Jordanian National Geographic Centre;

— petrographic analysis of pottery from Petra, by Jean-Marie Dentzer;

— a compilation of Greek and Latin inscriptions by Pierre-Louis Gatier, funded by the CNRS and the Maison de L'Orient;

— a study of ancient Jordanian coins, by Christian Auge;

— Excavations at Khirbet es-Samra by an Ecole Biblique team headed by Father Jean-Baptiste Humbert;

— Excavations by the same team at the site of El Fedim/Mafraq;

— Excavations at the Umayyad castle/village at Qastal by Patricia Carlier, sponsored by IFAPO and the University of Aix-Marseille;

— Excavations at the 4th

Search for athlete to recreate Daedalus flight

By Granville Watts
Reuter

ATHENS — The search is on for the perfect Greek athlete to recreate the legendary flight of Daedalus from Crete some 3,500 years ago.

According to Greek mythology Daedalus, one of the world's first scientists, escaped from the wrath of King Minos by fashioning feather and wax wings for himself and his son Icarus.

The son fell into the sea and was drowned, the legend goes, but Daedalus made it to Sicily via the Greek mainland.

Although the Daedalus story is generally regarded as a myth, science is now preparing to prove the flight could be possible.

A team at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) has developed a light-weight craft which will first challenge for the world human-powered flight record in California in January and then attempt to reconstruct the Daedalus flight.

The project is the dream of MIT aeronautical engineering professor Steven Bussolari. But the Greek end of the Daedalus project is being organised by Dr. Konstantin Pavlov, an exercise physiologist-nutritionist of Harvard Medical School.

Greek-born Pavlov is currently director of the department of exercise physiology at the National Olympic Research Centre in Athens.

Speaking in his office alongside Athens' gleaming white Olympic stadium, Pavlov told Reuters that because the selected pilot would have to pedal his way through the air in what would be described as a bicycle with wings, he was concentrating on suitable athletes from the Greek national cycling team.

"The flight will require tremendous endurance and energy, the equivalent of two marathons back to back," he said.

"But whereas the marathon runner can slow down and take a breather, the pilot will have to pedal non-stop to 70 per cent of his capacity," he said.

The current world record for distance and duration for a human-powered craft was set in 1979 when Bryan Allen piloted and pedalled the Gossamer Albatross designed by Dr. Paul MacCready across the 35 kilometre English Channel. The flight took two hours and 49 minutes.

The Daedalus attempt will take an estimated four hours and 15 minutes over distance of about 120 kilometres.

The prototype craft was tested three weeks ago at Hanscom air force base near Boston and performed well, Pavlov said. It looks like a glider with a 31-metre wingspan and the pilot sits inside a cockpit operating a pedal arrangement that turns the single propeller.

"The amazing thing is its weight — only 40 kilogramme, Pavlov said. "There have been many attempts for man to power his own flying craft over the years but their main problem was the craft were too heavy."

A special kind of carbon fibre has been used in the main construction making the craft amazingly light but strong, he said.

The pilot needed would ideally have a small frame and low body-weight and need to have high glucose levels stored in his body.

"We have so far tested eight Greek athletes and only one was successful. When they are selected we will send three to the United States for further training."

From a weather point of view the best time for an attempt on the Daedalus reconstructed flight would be next April or September when winds are constant but low, the scientist said.

One site being looked at as a possible starting point in Crete is the top of a 300-metre cliff at Acra Spitha. This would give the craft a boost in height before it levels out just above the sea. It will fly at just six metres above the sea to make use of wind bouncing off the water.

"But taking off from the cliff could also be dangerous as the pilot would not have a parachute for weight reasons," Pavlov said.

Security Council condemns Israel

(Continued from page 1)

lasting and just to the Middle East conflict," he said.

Addressing the council on Monday, Jordan's permanent ambassador to the United Nations Mr. Abdullah Salah, called on the international community to condemn Israel's killing of the Palestinian students and its continued armed campaign in the occupied territories. He said Jordan was calling on the council to find an effective solution to the problem and establish peace.

Israel's continued attacks on Arab citizens in Jerusalem and other parts of the occupied territories are bound to heighten tension in the Arab region, Mr. Salah said.

He said that since Israel occupied Arab Jerusalem in 1967, the Holy City had been exposed to all forms of Israeli illegal measures and misappropriations against the Arab population, he said. These measures included the annexation of the Holy City, the violations of holy and historic Arab and Muslim and Christian places, he said.

The Al Aqsa Mosque in Arab Jerusalem in particular had been exposed to repeated Israeli attacks and acts of sacrilege and Jewish extremists are going ahead with plans for demolishing Al Aqsa and other holy places in the occupied lands, Mr. Salah said.

At the same time, he said, in Israeli occupation authorities are going ahead with plans to change the Arab character of the occupied territories.

Helping people kick the habit

ILO feature

THE world is on a binge. Over the past two decades consumption of wine has increased by some 20 per cent and spirits by about 50 per cent. Most people, however, favour beer. Its global production rose by 124 per cent during the same period.

The world is on a high. There are some 50 million users of soft and hard drugs — such as marijuana, cocaine and heroin. This does not include even greater numbers of people who have taken to abusing amphetamines, barbiturates and tranquilisers.

Much has been said and written about the slow but sure degeneration that addiction brings on individuals as well as about the human tragedies that accompany the sad process.

But far less is known about the astronomical price that society pays for the epidemic.

Some countries report that 50 per cent of their crime is related to addiction. Excessive drinking is the major cause of a very high percentage of road accidents. Alcoholism has become the third leading cause of death, exceeded only by heart disease and cancer.

Estimates of the cost in lost production and material damage due to alcoholism in the United States range from \$49,000 million to as high as \$120,000 million each year depending on the research methodologies used. Canadian industry losses are put at approximately \$7,600 million each year, and British industry is reported to suffer annual losses of around \$1,500 million. In Switzerland they have been estimated at 5 million Swiss francs every day.

Studies in the Federal Republic

of Germany, France and the United States also indicate that the number of work accidents among alcoholics is two to three times higher than among other workers.

Absenteeism rates for problem drug and alcohol users are more than double those of other employees. This costs American industry up to \$20,000 million a year.

No profession or occupation is immune to the scourge. But some groups are more vulnerable than others.

Alcoholism tends to be high, for instance, among seamen, lawyers, domestic servants, business executives, military personnel and police officers.

Drug abuse is found to be prevalent among long-distance lorry drivers, airline pilots, workers on mass production lines and particularly doctors and nurses who often have easy access to drugs.

Late arrivals, long lunch breaks and early departures are among the first signals of alcohol abuse. These tell-tale signs are accompanied by shoddy workmanship, lower output and unsound decisions, causing missed deadlines and lost business.

Drug-dependent workers suffer from similar problems but run higher risks because of the acute effects of drugs. The deterioration of job performance and productivity is more rapid.

The first thing a doctor will tell an addict is to stop drinking or popping pep pills on the job. It is a good place to make a start. The work setting by definition provides certain coercive and supportive influences which can help to kick the habit.

In far too many enterprises, however, management and unions

still tend to adopt an ostrich approach concerning alcohol and drug abuse and no organised or official attempt is made to acknowledge that the problem exists. The addict is eventually dismissed when he or she has become too great a liability, creating hardships for the individual, the family and society.

Opinions differ about how treatment and rehabilitation should be organised at the workplace. Most European countries are providing prevention and counselling services on the job while also enlisting community resources. In the USSR treatment of heavy drinkers is compulsory and special facilities exist adjacent to factories so that patients can continue to work.

One of the most comprehensive approaches is the Employee Assistance Programmes developed in the United States. Some 4,000 firms now have such rehabilitation programmes. In some cases, up to 80 per cent of heavy drinkers have been helped to keep their jobs as opposed to 96 per cent dismissed before any help was made available. Moreover, significant drops in lost work hours and disability payments have been recorded, ranging from 60 to 80 per cent.

Under a labour-management scheme launched by General Motors, absenteeism among employees who enrolled in the programme was reduced by 40 per cent within a year. Sickness and accident benefits' utilisation for the same group dropped by 60 per cent. Disciplinary actions taken by management against "problem employees" were cut in half.

Available evidence shows that in dollar for dollar value, the

cost-benefit ratio of employee recovery programmes is at least about two to one, not counting their inestimable humanitarian and societal assets.

However, all efforts to push alcohol and drug abuse out of the workplace should be harmonised with the struggle against addiction outside the enterprise's gate.

The first step alcohol and drug addicts must take if they want to kick the habit is to recognise that they have a problem. The same goes for the workplace and society as a whole.

To stimulate this process, the ILO has initiated a plan of action aimed at tackling addiction at work. Research and technical services in this field will be strengthened. In collaboration with the World Health Organisation, the ILO is completing a multi-media kit to help stem the drug and alcohol problem in the workplace through slides, posters and other means of communication. Focusing on substance abuse control, prevention, treatment and rehabilitation, the kit will be available for employers, unions and communities in early 1987.

Unless controlled, the effects of drug abuse could be as insidious and devastating as the plagues which swept many parts of the world in earlier centuries. To coordinate a concerted and determined struggle on the part of the entire world community, the U.N. will hold an International Conference on Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking at the ministerial level next June in Vienna. The ILO contribution will focus on rehabilitation of abusers and their social reintegration, as well as ways and means of responding to drug problems in the workplace.

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Manila insists ceasefire is on despite Communist anger

MANILA (R) — The government of President Corason Aquino Tuesday insisted its 60-day ceasefire with Communist rebels was on for Wednesday but then convened a meeting with angry Communist emissaries to find out if it was.

There was no immediate word on the success of the meeting, called after the Communists accused the Philippine military of actively subverting the agreement to the point where the truce either never starts or falls flat on its face from the word go.

"It's on. It's on," insisted government negotiator Teofisto Guingona about the ceasefire to start at noon local time (0400 GMT) Wednesday.

He made his comments before seeing Mrs. Aquino to brief her on the latest snags in the four-month effort to bring a halt to a 17-year-long guerrilla war.

After seeing Mr. Guingona, Mrs. Aquino said "I am very hopeful."

Communist envoys Antonio Zume and Satur Ocampo earlier in the day demanded that Mrs. Aquino issue a statement rebuking the military for insisting

"It all depends on the meeting," he said, adding that the decision would be made by both sides taking part in the talks.

Mr. Guingona said that one issue — whether the military can patrol rebel areas — was cleared up at a meeting Tuesday morning and he called the weapons

stumbling block "a grey area" of the Nov. 27 ceasefire. He did not give details.

But retired Maj. Gen. Jose Magno, President Aquino's military advisor, refused to budge from the military's position Tuesday.

"The rebels will not be disarmed until they come to a place where a firearm ban is in effect. There are public places in populated areas where civilians will be scared. Let them (the rebels) leave their firearms in camps."

Mr. Guingona added that even Philippine policemen have to leave their guns at home when they are off-duty.

Meanwhile, the state-run Philippine News Agency (PNA) reported that Communist rebels

launched two attacks in the northern and southern Philippines Tuesday that resulted in the deaths of five soldiers and two civilians.

It also said that according to military intelligence reports two large guerrilla groups in the troubled southern island of Mindanao would not obey the ceasefire when it goes into effect.

Meanwhile the biggest ceasefire party in the Philippines is set to begin in Bacolod Wednesday at noon.

But no one knows whether the invited guests can bring their guns and grenade launchers.

In fact, some people wonder whether there will be a party at all, considering the political wrangling going on now in Manila.

But several hundred rebels have begun the trek down the mountains surrounding Bacolod, the capital of Negros Occidental province.

They hope that Wednesday will see the biggest celebration of their lives, the day that signals the first official halt to their 17-year-long guerrilla war.

Brunei aide confirms contra funds

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, Brunei (R) — A senior government official Tuesday confirmed American press reports that Brunei had sent several million dollars to U.S.-backed Nicaraguan contra rebels.

The official, who asked not to be identified, told Reuters the money, reported to total under \$10 million, was channelled through the now-closed National Bank of Brunei. The royal family holds a minority stake in the private bank.

He declined to give any more details and the government officially remained silent.

The payment followed a brief visit to the oil-rich state by U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz during a regional tour in June. Local reporters said Mr. Shultz visited the sultan's huge modern riverside palace during his three-hour stopover.

No details of Mr. Shultz's talks were disclosed.

Government officials said the sultan had read the reports of the transaction but did not know when or if he would make any statement.

Sir Muda Hassanal Bolkiah, listed in the Guinness Book of Records as the world's richest man due to oil and gas revenue from his sultanate, rarely reacts to press reports.

Diplomats and businessmen in the quiet coastal capital told Reuters they were shocked and puzzled by the reports of Brunei giving money to the contras. The government official said Brunei was staunchly anti-Communist.

Sunday's New York Times said the money went to a secret Swiss account administered by Lt. Col. Oliver North, an aide in President Reagan's National Security Council.

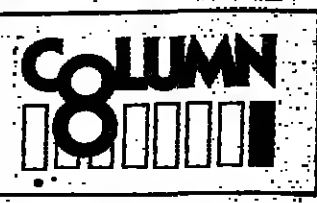
North was fired in the furor over clandestine arms sales to Iran. Part of the proceeds from the sales went to the contras.

The Los Angeles Times said on Saturday that Mr. Shultz had personally persuaded the sultan to give the money. Other reports said his assistant, Elliot Abrams, arranged the deal.

CBS quoted intelligence sources as saying Mr. Abrams got permission from Mr. Shultz to draw up a list of countries likely to contribute but that Brunei was the only one approached.

Brunei's Finance Ministry took over the National Bank of Brunei on Nov. 19, saying 1.3 billion dollars (\$650 million) had been improperly lent to firms linked to its majority owner, reclusive millionaire tycoon Tan Sri Khoo Teck Puat.

Five bank officials and auditors face charges of fraud, mismanagement and conspiracy, including bank Chairman Khoo Ban Hock, son of the reclusive owner. The case resumes on Dec. 20.



Indian sentenced to death for murder

DUBAI (R) — An Indian carpenter has been sentenced to death for killing nine members of two Pakistani families, local newspapers have reported. They said Paul George, a 37-year-old expatriate worker, poured inflammable paint thinner round the families' shanty in Dubai on Oct. 10, 1985 and set it on fire after a row. Seven of the nine killed were children. A court found George guilty of premeditated murder, criminal trespass, arson, drunkenness and illegal residence. The sentence must be approved by the ruler of Dubai emirate, one of seven in the United Arab Emirates. Sheikh Rashid bin Said Al Maktoum. Death sentences in the UAE are usually carried out by firing squad.

Joan Collins files for divorce

LOS ANGELES (R) — British actress Joan Collins filed for divorce from her fourth husband, Swedish businessman Peter Holm, citing irreconcilable differences and alleged fraud as the reasons for ending the 13-month marriage. Collins, 53-year-old star of the Dynasty television series, sought no monetary support from the 39-year-old Holm in her Los Angeles county superior court petition. "I got married because I truly believed that this was a relationship that was going to last," Collins said in a statement issued by her lawyer, Marvin Mitchell. "I believe in marriage. Old-fashioned marriage. It makes me very sad and regretful that this did not work out at this time in my life," she added. Holm has been acting as business manager for Collins, who earns about \$1.5 million a year playing Alexis Carrington in Dynasty, since their marriage at a Las Vegas wedding chapel on Nov. 6, 1985. The couple met at a London party in July 1983. They formed a joint company to produce Collins' television mini-series, Sins.

Thieves take entire Polish pin-up exhibition

WARSAW (R) — Thieves have stolen the complete display of nude pin-ups due to be shown at this year's Venus Photographic Exhibition in Krakow, the Polish News Agency PAP reported. In the 17-year history of the exhibition, thieves have raided the gallery a dozen times and stolen exhibits. According to the agency experts this year's display was one of the gallery's best.

Vatican condemns sex selection

VATICAN CITY (AP) — The official Vatican newspaper on Saturday condemned predetermination of the sex of a child as "a product of the irrationality of technology." The commentary in L'Osservatore Romano referred to the birth last week in Naples of a girl whose sex had been determined before her test-tube conception. The newspaper wrote in its Sunday edition, "predetermining the sex of the unborn child means that it is conceived not in the conjugal act, but with laboratory technology. It is not conceived, but produced. One produces things, not people. Predetermining gender 'reduces the future person to a useful and/or usable object,' L'Osservatore Romano said. "It is not science that makes this possible, but an inhuman use of science." Dr. Raffaele Magli, who performed the laboratory procedure and delivered Teresa Fanno on Nov. 29, said that sex "can be manipulated by a filtering process which separates sperm carrying 'X' or female-determining chromosomes from those carrying 'Y' or male-determining chromosomes."

White House denies Nancy-Ronald spat

WASHINGTON (R) — The White House has denied that President Reagan and his wife Nancy had engaged in a heated spat over whether White House Chief of Staff Donald Regan should be sacked. The Washington Post, quoting an informed source, has reported that the Reagans quarreled over Regan earlier this week, with Nancy urging his dismissal. The president was quoted as ending the discussion by saying "Get off my goddamn back." White House Spokesman Don Howard said the report "has no truth to it... not the quote nor anything else."

Poll: U.K. Conservatives have big lead

LONDON (AP) — Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher's Conservative Party on Tuesday registered its biggest lead two years in opinion polls measuring her popularity against the opposition Labour Party.

The poll also showed widespread hostility to Labour's non-nuclear defence policy which was held largely responsible for Mrs. Thatcher's rebound among those surveyed.

The Harris Research Poll, announced on the commercial television station TV-AM, put support for the Conservatives at 41 per cent against 35 per cent for the Labour Party, the biggest opposition group in the House of Commons.

The centrist Liberal-Social

Democratic Party Alliance trailed in third place with 22 per cent.

After nearly a year in second place behind Labour, the Tories returned the lead in a series of opinion polls this fall.

Tuesday's Harris Poll showed that 31 per cent of those asked said Labour's non-nuclear defence policy would be the main obstacle to them voting for the party at the next general election.

Labour is pledged to abolish Britain's independent nuclear deterrent and banish all U.S. nuclear arms from this country when next in power. The same pledge is believed to have played a major role in Labour's heavy defeat at the hands of the Conservatives at the last general election in 1983.

Mrs. Thatcher is prepared to call the next election in either the spring or summer of next year.

Labour leader Neil Kinnock has just returned from a visit to the United States where he sought to sway Americans in favour of his party's non-nuclear defence policy.

He argued it would release cash to bolster spending on conventional forces, in which the Soviet Bloc outnumbers Western Europe. But U.S. leaders warned it could lead to the break-up of the NATO alliance and the withdrawal of U.S. troops from Western Europe.

The Harris Poll was based on 985 interviews conducted last Saturday and Sunday. It indicated no margin of error.

Paisley disrupts Thatcher's address in Strasbourg

STRASBOURG, France (R) — Northern Ireland Protestant politician Ian Paisley Tuesday disrupted an address by British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher to the European Parliament.

He was protesting at an Anglo-Irish accord aimed at bringing stability to the strife-torn province.

Mrs. Thatcher was twice forced to abandon her speech after the fiery Unionist leader interrupted to denounce her as "a traitor to the loyalist people of Northern Ireland."

The British government has faced months of vigorous opposition from the Protestant majority in Northern Ireland since it signed the year-old agreement with Dublin.

Under the accord, the Irish Republic was given a consultative role in the running of the British province. Opponents say they fear the deal marks the beginning of a process that will finally culminate in full control from Dublin.

Standing only metres away from the British leader, Paisley accused Mrs. Thatcher of denying the people of Northern Ireland the right to vote on the Anglo-Irish accord.

One dies on 3rd day of Indian protests

NEW DELHI (AP) — Rioting erupted Tuesday for the third consecutive day in Karnataka state, resulting in the death of one rioter fatally shot by police, the government's All-India Radio reported.

The death raised to at least 16 of the number of people who have died since Sunday in violent Muslim protests in the southern state.

The newscast said a curfew had been extended in the ancient city of Mysore and a ban on public assembly imposed in other parts of the state.

The cities of Mysore and Bangalore were under heavy police guard after rock-throwing erupted again Tuesday morning, the United New of India (UNI) reported.

The government radio said violence spread Tuesday to the town of Tumkur, north east of Bangalore, and one person was killed when riot police opened fire to scatter rampaging mobs. The rioters tried to set fire to public property, it said.

The broadcast said 76 people were arrested on rioting charges Tuesday in Mysore, raising the total number of arrests in the state to more than 175.

India's chief law enforcement official, Home Minister Bha Singh, appealed in parliament on Monday night for people to remain calm.

The recent spate of violence in the cities was prompted by a fictional story entitled "Mohammed the Idiot" printed in the English-language paper Deccan Herald, which Muslims said insulted the Prophet Mohammad. The story was about a handicapped man named Mohammad who committed suicide.

Thousands of Muslims formed a procession in Bangalore on Sunday to protest the story. Demonstrators became violent, stoning vehicles and attempting to set buildings on fire.

Police opened fire to quell the violence and at least nine people

were reported killed.

The editor and publisher of the newspaper were arrested and later released on bail.

In a separate development the Lower House of parliament on Monday voted to make the north eastern Indian territory of Arunachal Pradesh the nation's 24th state.

The statehood bill still must be passed by the Upper House, where approval is expected.

Arunachal Pradesh, known as the North East Frontier during British rule in India, borders Bhutan, Burma and China.

Most of the residents of the 88,473 square kilometre territory are tribespeople.

The vote on the constitutional amendment for statehood by the Lok Sabha, or Lower House, was 338 to 34.

Opposition party members said they did not oppose statehood but objected to plans to arm the proposed state's governor with special law enforcement powers.

U.S. suspends firing of TOW missiles

WASHINGTON (R) — The U.S. army has suspended firing of its TOW anti-tank missiles, the same weapon covertly sent to Iran in the past year, after two accidents on U.S. soil, an army spokesman has said.

"We have suspended the firings pending an intensive, precautionary investigation and notified our friends and allies of the problem," Col. Craig MacNab told Reuters.

He said he did not know if any warning went to Iran after the Oct. 14 suspension order.

Administration and congressional sources have said that as many as 2,000 of the TOW (tube-launched, optically-tracked, wire-guided)

missiles were shipped to Iran to improve U.S. relations with moderates there.

MacNab said two U.S. TOW missiles ruptured as they were fired in September at the Makus Military Reservation in Hawaii and at the Yalima Firing Range at Fort Lewis, Washington, during training exercises.

13 football players reportedly killed in Surinam

THE HAGUE (R) — Government troops in Surinam shot dead 13 youngsters playing football in a remote village in the east of the country last week, the right-wing Dutch newspaper De Telegraaf said Monday.

An uncorroborated frontpage report said the young men, aged between 16 and 20, were ordered to lie down on the football pitch and were then shot.

It said the incident happened in Claaskreek, a village in Brokopondo, one of four districts where the military government of Desi Bouterse has imposed a partial state of emergency as troops continue an offensive against guerrillas headed by former soldier Ronny Brunswijk.

On Sunday, Surinam's Prime Minister Pretaprasanna Radhakrishnan defended the army against charges of mass killings. Former President Henk Chin A Sen said in The Hague last Friday that soldiers were killing many villagers in the rebel-dominated eastern region of the formerly Dutch-ruled territory on the north coast of South America.

Mobutu to meet with Reagan on African issues

WASHINGTON (AP) — Zairean President Mobutu Sese Seko, a favourite in Washington for years because of his strongly pro-Western stance, is scheduled to meet with U.S. President Ronald Reagan Wednesday to discuss economic and security issues affecting Central Africa.

A U.S. official who briefed reporters Monday called Mr. Mobutu a voice of "sanity and reason" in Africa even though successive administrations have been troubled by allegations that he has used his office for personal enrichment.

Mr. Mobutu, who meets with Mr. Reagan Wednesday, has led his country since 1965. He has been described in a number of published reports as one of the world's richest men.

The U.S. official, asking not to be identified, said government corruption in Zaire has declined in recent years, partly because of monitoring by the World Bank and International Monetary Fund (IMF) of the country's foreign exchange earnings.

Zaire has been cooperating with the IMF in enforcing an austerity programme aimed at reducing inflation and restoring economic growth. The fight against inflation has been successful, but growth rates remain low, the official said.

Mobutu, 56, met Monday night with IMF officials reportedly to discuss the possibility of an agreement that would allow Zaire to spread out payments on its \$4.5 billion foreign debt, almost all of which is owed to foreign governments. There was no report on that meeting.

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Wright succeeds O'Neill as House majority leader

WASHINGTON (AP) — Opposition Democrats have chosen Jim Wright, a bushy-browed orator from Texas, as speaker of the House of Representatives to succeed Thomas "Tip" O'Neill as most powerful member of Congress.

Mr. Wright has already served notice that he will push to "restore America's competitiveness" by passing what Democrats call trade legislation but what many economists say is simply import-curbing protectionism.

He will be joined in this by Senate majority leader Robert Byrd and other Democrats, who took control of the upper house in last month's elections from President Ronald Reagan's Republicans.

Opposition Democrats have been in control of the House for decades, but the Republican loss of Senate control will complicate Mr. Reagan's final two years in office.

Already at least temporarily weakened by the scandal over arms sales to Iran and aid to Nicaraguan rebels, Mr. Reagan for the first time faces a Congress with both houses in opposition control.

He will have a harder time forming issue-by-issue coalitions to pass legislation, and otherwise will make more compromises or watch his vetoes be overridden.

"I'd like to be an instrument in creating a sense of bipartisanship in our approach to world affairs," Mr. Wright has said. But he added: "It will be my responsibility to uphold the dignity and the integrity of the House and the Congress."

House Democrats, meeting in a party "caucus" on Monday to organise for the session of Congress that begins next month, approved Mr. Wright by unanimous vote.

Most Americans believe God can offer guidance — poll

WASHINGTON (AP) — Politicians' claims to be guided by God may strike "a responsive chord" rather than irking people since millions of Americans have felt divine guidance, too, pollster George Gallup Jr. says.

He commented Monday after release of a survey on religious attitudes conducted by the Gallup Organisation for the Rev. Pat Robertson's Christian Broadcasting Network.

Opponents have tried to attack Rev. Robertson by ridiculing his statements that he was being guided by God in deciding whether to run for the presidency and that his praying had helped keep a hurricane away from the Virginia shore, where his operation is based.

But the new poll's results suggest such a tactic of ridicule may be of little use.

Gallup said in an interview that 69 per cent of adult Americans questioned in the survey said God has led or guided them in making decisions and 36 per cent said God has spoken directly to them "through some means."

With that personal experience, "the public understands when a leader says God has spoken to him or guided him to take a specific course of action," Gallup said.

The survey mentions neither Rev. Robertson, who says he will make the race for the Republican nomination if enough support can be identified, nor politics in general. Gallup said his organisation is strictly neutral and does not work for political candidates.

However, when asked about possible political significance of the new poll, he said: "The public is perhaps more open to a person saying he is receiving guidance from God than the press has indicated, and not just in terms of Pat's statements about hurricanes and so forth but also in a broad sense."

The survey also noted that 31 per cent of adult Americans identify themselves as "born-again" or Evangelical Christians — a possible base of support for a candidate such as Rev. Robertson.

Such Evangelicals are significantly more likely than the general population to live in the south, to be black or Hispanic, to have less than a high school education, to earn less than \$25,000 a year, to be Protestant and to identify with the Republican Party, the survey said.

In broader findings, the poll said 94 per cent of adult

Americans believe in God or some universal spirit, and 84 per cent believe that "God is a heavenly father who watches over us and can be reached by our prayers."

Asked how God speaks to people in modern times, just under 50 per cent of respondents said through the Bible and through an internal feeling or impression.

Just 11 per cent said God speaks today "out loud through a direct verbal message" — in contrast to 39 per cent who said God spoke out loud to people in Biblical times.

The Gallup Organisation interviewed 1,013 randomly selected people by telephone last February for the survey, which had a potential sampling error of plus or minus four percentage points.

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN AND OMAR SHARIF © 1986 Tribune Media Services, Inc.

MINE THOSE TRICKS

Both vulnerable. South deals.

NORTH
♠ K 6 4
♥ K J
♦ K 10 5 4
♣ A 10 3

EAST
♠ Q 10 9 3
♥ 9 8 6
♦ Q 9 8 6
♣ J 7 2

SOUTH
♠ A J 7
♥ A Q 10
♦ Q 8 5 2
♣ K 5 4

The bidding:
South West North East
1 NT Pass 2 ♣ Pass
2 ♣ Pass 3 NT Pass
Pass Pass

Opening lead: Nine of ♣.

Simple addition and subtraction is sometimes all you need to point in the right direction at the bridge table. When you know how many tricks you require, it is easier to find the winning line.

North-South reached three no trump to a straightforward auction. North used the Stayman Convention to check on a possible 4-4 spade fit, then used arithmetic to tell him that there were ample points for game but not enough for slam in the combined holding.

West led a top-of-nothing heart, and declarer could count seven fast tricks. The obvious place to look for the two tricks he needed for game was in the diamond suit.

It diamonds were 3-2, declarer could come to two tricks by force regardless of how he played. A quick perusal of the spot cards in the suit revealed that declarer could make two tricks even against a 4-1 split.

South won the first trick with the queen of hearts and led a diamond to the king. East took the ace and continued with a heart. Declarer rode that round to the king, led a low diamond and inserted the eight. Had West been able to win the trick, declarer would have had the last two diamond tricks. When the eight held, declarer had only to cash the queen for his contract. Observe that had East played the nine of diamonds, declarer could promote a second diamond trick by winning and conceding a trick to the jack.

Had the king of diamonds won the second trick, declarer would have continued with a low diamond. If East shows out, declarer rises with the queen and, although that loses to the ace, declarer sets up a second trick in the suit by leading a diamond up to the ten when next he gains the lead.